

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 558 - SB 1447

March 8, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (004762): Requires a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school to allow a student to use at least one excused absence from school within the number of days that the LEA or public charter school authorizes to be excused to allow the student time to address the student's mental or behavioral health. Establishes that for an absence to be excused pursuant to this section, the students' parent or guardian must provide a personal note to the school stating that the student's absence is due to the student's mental or behavioral health, and that the absence must occur on a Friday on a date in which the student will not be administered a test or is not otherwise scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity. Requires a student receiving an excused absence from school pursuant to this section to have the opportunity to make up school work missed and to not have the student's class grades adversely affected.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- LEAs would be required to add a new code to designate this new type of excused absence in order to report on implementation of this requirement. The Department of Education's (DOE) system would also need to be updated.
- Schools will be able to update their attendance policies during the normal course of business.
- LEAs and DOE will be able to make the necessary changes during the annual oversight of student information systems and within existing resources. Any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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